WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image-taking control apparatus controlling a plurality of drivable parts of an image-taking device, the plurality of drivable parts including a first drivable part whose operation speed can be selected only in steps, such that operations of the respective drivable parts from their current positions to their target positions finish substantially simultaneously, the image-taking control apparatus comprising:

a speed selector selecting an operation speed for each of the drivable parts, based on information on its current position, information on its target position, and information on a target operation time from a start command time at which an operation start of the plurality of drivable parts is commanded until the respective operations to the target positions finish; and

a controller performing such control that each of the drivable parts operates at its operation speed selected by the speed selector;

wherein the speed selector selects a specific operation speed for the first drivable part from selectable operation speeds of the first drivable part, the specific operation speed being an operation speed at which the operation to the target position can finish within the target operation time; and

wherein the controller calculates an anticipated

operation time needed until the operation of the first drivable part to its target position at the specific operation speed finishes, and lets the operation of the first drivable part start when a waiting time corresponding to a time difference between the anticipated operation time and the target operation time has passed after the start command time.

2. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the plurality of drivable parts of the image-taking device are drivable parts related to changes in zoom, focus and image-taking direction.

3. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the speed selector selects for the first drivable part, of the selectable operation speeds, an operation speed at which the time difference becomes shortest.

4. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the speed selector selects for the first drivable part, of the selectable operation speeds, an operation speed at which the time difference becomes longest.

5. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the controller sets the waiting time to zero regardless of the time difference when the controller lets the first drivable part perform an operation such that an image-taking field angle is changed toward a wide-angle side.

6. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the controller sets the waiting time to zero regardless of the time difference when the controller lets the first drivable part perform an operation such that an image-taking field angle is changed toward a telephoto side.

7. The image-taking control apparatus according to claim 7,

wherein the plurality of drivable parts includes the first drivable part and a second drivable part whose operation speed can be selected in non-steps.

8. An image-taking system, comprising:

an image-taking device comprising a plurality of drivable parts, the plurality of drivable parts including a first drivable part whose operation speed can be selected only in steps; and

the image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1.

9. An image-taking system according to claim 8,

wherein the image-taking device comprises a camera whose image-taking field angle and focusing state can be changed, and a pan head supporting the camera and capable of a panning and a tilting operation.

10. An image-taking system, comprising:

an image-taking device comprising a plurality of drivable parts, the plurality of drivable parts including a first drivable part whose operation speed can be selected only in steps;

the image-taking control apparatus according to claim 1; and

an input device with which information specifying the target positions and the target operation time can be input into the image-taking control apparatus.